A STUDY ON WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND THEIR DEVELOPMENT IN 21ST CENTURY

Synopsis

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❖ INTRODUCTION

The current research focuses on the advancement of women in the 21st century and their empowerment. The objectives of this study are to learn more about women's education in pre-colonial, colonial, and modern India, the ways in which women are empowered, violence against women, women's rights, and the legal protection of women in the Indian constitution, as well as the role of NGOs and government programs for women's empowerment, the role of education in promoting women's empowerment, and how women's empowerment is changing Indian society in the twenty-first century. As a result, it can be seen that women's education in Indian culture throughout the Vedic era was of high quality. This study also demonstrates that women's empowerment refers to enhancing and strengthening the social, economic, political, and legal power of women in order to guarantee their equality and provide them the self-assurance to assert their rights. It is only feasible for a nation to grow fully when its women rise to prominence. In addition, this study highlights the advantages offered by numerous NGOs, national organizations, etc., as well as the constitutional rights of women. In order to revive woman empowerment, women must be educated. Due to their education, women will become economically, politically, and socially concerned. This study's overall findings demonstrate how women's empowerment has helped Indian society advance and change in the twenty-first century.

The globe is fervently progressing in the twenty-first century and embracing the role that women play in advancing global society and the global economy. The most crucial factor in socioeconomic progress is the participation of women in decision-making, which must

be strengthened. India is a developing nation, and because it is a nation where men predominate, its economic situation is also quite poor. About 50% of the population of the country are women, and the majority of them are still economically reliant and unemployed. For the family, society, and nation to have a bright future, women must be empowered. In order to empower women, one must promote their economic independence, high self-esteem, courage in the face of adversity, and active involvement in a variety of social and political development initiatives. Only when women have an education will women's empowerment become more important. Women's empowerment, prosperity, progress, and welfare all heavily depend on education. In every community and nation, education has been acknowledged as a crucial force for social transformation and progress. Giving women the information, skills, and self-confidence they need to fully participate in the development process is only possible via education. All people should have access to education, but women and girls especially need it to survive and advance in society. The eradication of several societal ills, such as the dowry issue and unemployment issues, is aided by the education of women. Additionally, social harmony is simple to develop. Future generations will lack education if women don't receive an education. Napoleon, a Greek warrior, famously remarked, "Give me a few educated moms, and I shall give you a heroic race," for this reason. In order to eradicate unfair practices and gender discrimination against women, the Indian government has recently adopted a number of constitutional and legal protections. In order to protect women from all forms of crimes against them, there is a list of safety legislation for women in India. Human rights include women's rights. Health, education, political engagement, financial security, and the absence of violence are just a few of the numerous topics they discuss. The complete and equal enjoyment of all kinds of discrimination by women is a vital requirement for the realization of human

rights, international peace and security, and sustainable development. Various NGOs play a significant role in the empowerment of women. The government offers several programs and plans for women's empowerment. India's overall growth is greatly influenced by the empowerment of women. So, in the twenty-first century, women's empowerment is a crucial instrument for the nation in order to properly flourish.

✓ Economic empowerment

Economic empowerment promotes women's access to financial services, jobs, real estate, other productive assets, skill development opportunities, and market knowledge. Sustainable development is a requirement for the economic empowerment of women.

❖ Political empowerment

Political empowerment is the process of creating structures that allow women to participate equally in all facets of the political system and public life in each community and society. It also involves giving women the tools to express their needs and concerns and ensuring that women participate fully and equally in all areas of decision-making. A proposed bill in India, the Constitution (108th Amendment) Bill, would reserve 33% of all seats in the Lok Sabha, the country's Lower House of Parliament, and state legislative assemblies for women. The Rajya Sabha, the Parliament's Upper House, approved this Bill in March 2010. Before being presented to the Indian president for his assent, it must be approved by the Lok Sabha and at least half of the state legislative assemblies. Before and after India's independence, reform movements assisted women in gaining some influence in politics. They were among the first to engage in political activism.

- ✓ **Empowerment via education**

  One of the most effective ways to equip women with the information, skills, and self- assurance they need to fully engage in the development process is via education. Women's empowerment, prosperity, progress, and welfare all heavily depend on education. The general growth of India is greatly impacted by the education of women. The independence and empowerment of women may be greatly aided through education. Due of its ability to help women adapt to problems, challenge their conventional roles, and transform their lives, education is seen as a significant step toward female empowerment.

Social emancipation

Social empowerment is a method to alter how diverse groups of people, cultures, and social activities interact with one another. The term "social empowerment" refers to the supportive factor that improves women's social ties and positions within social institutions. Social discrimination based on disability, race, ethnicity, religion, or gender is addressed via social empowerment.

- Health empowerment

Empowering women in terms of their health and safety is another crucial aspect. Providing for women's health and safety is the first step in empowering them. Women's health issues are crucial to the welfare of a nation and have a significant role in determining how empowered women are in that nation. As a result, we see that 21st century civilizations recognize the empowerment of women for global development, as well as women's active role as agents of development and their involvement and direction of their own growth. In the twenty-first century, women's education is crucial for their empowerment. Education is a crucial tool for empowering women and girls to take part in decisions that will influence their lives and help them rise in society. Women who are empowered become autonomous decision-makers. A nation may prosper socially, politically, and economically by empowering its women. A rural woman has to be empowered from all angles in order to develop. For this, women should be given additional opportunities and benefits.

❖ **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**:

The study's precise goals are as follows:

1. To learn more about women's education in ancient, colonial, and contemporary India.

2. To understand how women can be empowered.

3. To learn about violence toward women.

4. To examine the Indian Constitution's provisions for women's rights and legal protection.

5. To understand how NGOs can empower women.

6. To be aware of government initiatives and programs aimed at empowering women

7. To learn how education has aided in the empowerment of women.

8. To provide an outline of how women's empowerment in the twenty-first century is affecting Indian society.

ANALYSIS OF CONNECTED LITERATURE

Panda, D. (2017) examined "Women Empowerment in India: Rational and Present status" in his review of related literature. He has discovered that while women's empowerment may not be essential for our country, it is essential for the long-term growth of a country. So let's start empowering women right away for our future security. It is necessary to alter Indian society's mentality about women. The man ought to believe that justice and equality are becoming more prevalent in the globe. Therefore, empowering women will result in prosperity for the next generation.

According to **Shettar, R. M. (2015),** women's empowerment can only be accomplished if their economic and social standing is raised in her essay titled "A Study on Issues and Challenges of Women Empowerment in India." Only by implementing clear social and economic policies with the goal of women's overall development and educating them about their capacity to be strong individuals can this be made achievable. Many people have seen some relief as a result of globalization, liberalism, and other socioeconomic influences. The empowerment of women in India is still substantially missing in a number of areas, though.

In her article titled "The Role of Education towards Women Empowerment in India" published in 2016, **Khatri, R.,** focuses on how education and literacy affect women's

empowerment. She also makes improvements to the changes that should be taken into account for women's empowerment and economic development. Women Empowerment in India- A Changing Scenario was the title of an article written by Suresh, P., and Sivakumar, T. in 2017. They noticed that empowering women primarily involves raising the economic, social, and political position of women, who have historically been impoverished in society. It entails protecting kids from all sorts of assault.

NECESSITY OF THE STUDY

Empowering women has the potential to transform many aspects of society and the nation. First and foremost, it is crucial that men, the government, lower classes, and women all work together to empower women if we want to see our nation thrive. Due to gender inequality and male dominance in Indian society, women's emancipation became necessary. Empowering women is crucial for the family, society, and country to have a bright future. Studies on women's empowerment in India are quite rare. Women's emancipation in the twenty-first century has not been studied. One of the most pressing issues of the 21st century is now the empowerment of women.

THE STUDY'S METHODOLOGY

A survey is a research technique that gathers information from a pre-selected set of respondents in order to learn more and develop new perspectives on a range of interesting topics. Depending on the technique used and the goals to be reached, surveys can be conducted in a variety of ways and have a variety of purposes. The survey approach is appropriate for gathering accurate information on recent events. Due to the fact that the research is relevant to the present, the survey approach will be employed to gather the data needed for the study.

❖ READING TOOL

Any object that serves as a method of gathering data for your study is referred to as a research tool or research instrument. As an illustration, research instruments include questionnaires, interview schedules, observation forms, and interview guides. The following procedure is used by researchers for their work.

- Sampling (NGO)
- Questionnaire
- Interview Schedule

✓ SAMPLING

The two NGO's chosen for sampling will be used by the research scholar.

STATISTICAL METHOD

The mathematical formulae, models, and methodologies known as statistical methods are employed in the statistical analysis of unprocessed research data. Statistical approaches are used to extract information from research data and offer several methods for evaluating the reliability of research findings. The research scholar uses the following statistical methods:

1. Co- relation

2. The proportion

- **Chapter Structure**

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Literature Review

Chapter 3: Research Methodology

Chapter 4: Data Interpretation and Analysis

Chapter 5: Conclusion and suggestions

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